New York, New York Public Library, Spencer Collection, NYPL Spencer 076

Description: ff. i + 108 + ii - French 18th century red morocco, gilt. - Label with the engraved coat of arms of Paul Girardot de Préfond (d. after 1757?) on f. i (verso). Purchased for Spencer and accessioned 1947. - Catalogue des livres du cabinet de Mr. D... G... P... (de Bure, Paris, 1757), n. 266. Dictionary Catalog, Spencer Collection, 902. - Jonathan J. G. Alexander, James H. Marrow and Lucy Freeman Sandler, The Splendor of the Word: Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts at the New York Public Library(London / Turnhout: The New York Public Library / Harvey Miller Publishers, 2005) n. 97.

Notes:-Foliation is incorrect, as it skips the first four folios, thus going to only 104. Here, both the corrected and the existing foliation are cited. Paper page pasted to the outside of f. 1.

Acknowledgments: - We thank Prof. James H. Marrow for his extensive work towards the present description of this manuscript. Peter J. Kidd identified the coast of arms on the front pastedown as those of the French bibliophile, Paul Girardot de Préfond; see his blog, Medieval Manuscripts Provenance, July 2014.

Number of Parts: 1 - *Number of Images Available:* 7

Direct Link: http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/NYPLSpencer076_42

Language: Latin; Italian *Country:* France *Century:* 15th

Part 1: ff. 1-108v

Description: - Parchment - 146 x 91 mm - 21 long lines per page, ruled in red ink. Catchwords visible. One quire of four folios followed by 13 quires of eight folios each.

Country: France

Cardinal point:

Region:

City: Bourges?

Assigned Date: s. XV$^{4/4}$

Searchable Date Range: 1475 - 1499

Dated by scribe: No

Inscribed Date:

Document: No

Number of Scribes: ;

Script: Ba^tarde

Artist(s): Jean Colombe

Figurative Decoration: Four full-page miniatures representing the cardinal virtues.

Other Decoration: Blue and gold initials and placemarkers with red or black penwork. Larger blue and red initials on painted fields, accompanying miniatures.

Notes: Produced ca. 1480. Latin

Number of Texts: 1

Text 1: ff. 5-102v

Author: John of Wales

Title: Breviloquium de virtutibus antiquorum principum et philosophorum

Language(s): Latin; Italian

Incipit: Quoniam misericordia et veritas custodiunt regem

Explicit: Vite future desiderio occidit se discipulus platonis. Voluptas carnis quot mala facit eciam corpori. Explicit.

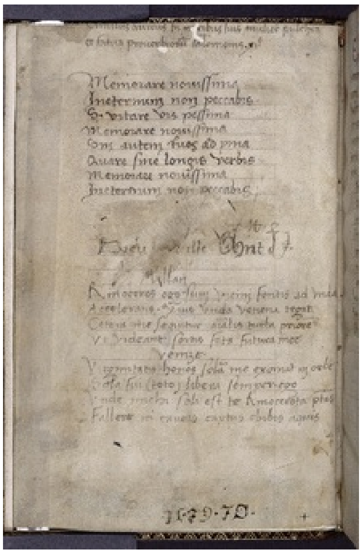
Notes: Text is followed by an alphabetically arranged subject index, but lacks the necessary references to the text (whether intellectual, i.e. chapter numbers, or physical, i.e. folio numbers); index is on separate quire, following 5 empty pages at end of text.



f. i verso (in front) Armorial bookplate of the 17th or 18th century.

View image

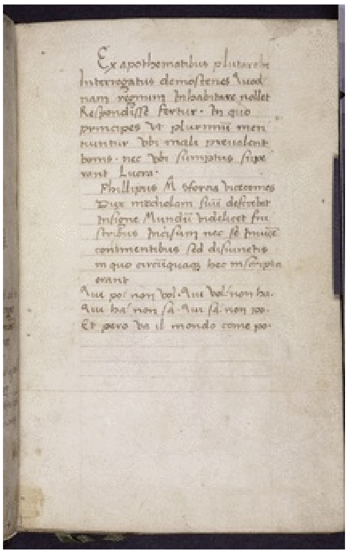
Download image



f. 1v (not labelled) Added verses of pious nature ("Memorare novissima") and epigrams of Milan and of Venice.

View image

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f. 2 (not labelled) Quote attributed to Demosthenes about the qualities of a place where he would not want to live; ironic comment about the world and Filippo Maria Sforza (1449-1492), in Italian: "Qui po non vol, qui vol non ha . . . Et pero va il mondo come po."

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f. 5 (labelled 1) Miniature of an allegory of Justice as a woman holding scales and a sword, standing on a bed.

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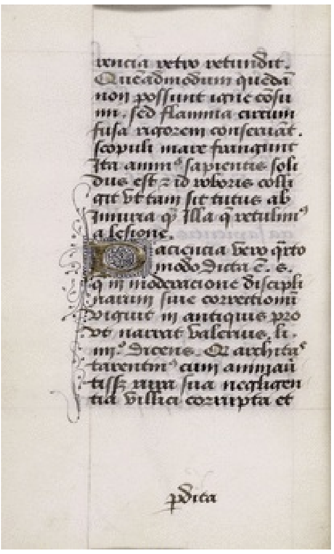
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f. 69 (labelled 65) Text with initial with a putto and a grotesque; miniature of an allegory of Fortitude as a woman, standing on a press with an anvil on her head, and grasping a dragon by its neck to pull it from a tower.

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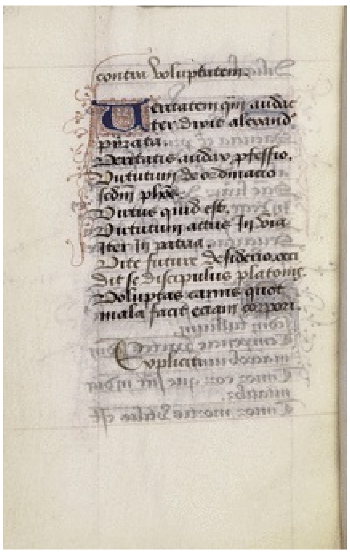
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f. 84v (labelled 80v) Page of text with gold initial and penwork, catchword.

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f. 106v (labelled 102v) Explicit of text.

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